

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 06068 130740Z

12

ACTION EA-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-05 PA-04 USIA-15 DRC-01 RSC-01 /034 W

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P 130715Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5899

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6068

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL, KS

SUBJECT: PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SEOUL

REF: STATE 196868

1. WITHOUT MENTIONING PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE (PTP) INVITATION TO AMBASSADOR SNEIDER (REFTEL) WE HAVE DISCUSSED OVERALL PROGRAM OF CONFERENCE WITH PTP REPRESENTATIVES HERE. SINCE THIS IS INTERNATIONAL GATHERING, FIRST-DAY SPEECHES WILL BE GIVEN BY PRESIDENT PTP INTERNATIONAL AND PRESIDENT KOREAN PTP. LOCAL PTP HAS INVITED PRESIDENT PARK BUT DO NOT EXPECT HIM TO APPEAR. THEY FEEL HOWEVER, PRIME MINISTER MAY BE PRESENT AND READ MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT. THUS, IF AMBASSADOR SNEIDER MAKES SPEECH HE WILL BE SOLE AMERICAN DOING SO IN TOTALLY INTERNATIONAL GATHERING ADDRESSED PRINCIPALLY BY INTERNATIONAL PTP PRESIDENT AND KOREAN HOSTS. FEEL THIS WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE.

2. ADDITIONALLY, FUTURE STATUS ROK/JAPAN RELATIONS SO UNCERTAIN THAT COMMITMENT TO SPEAK NOW BEFORE WE HAVE CHANCE SEE HOW THINGS SORT THEMSELVES OUT COULD CAUSE EMBARRASSMENT IF, FOR ANY REASON, WE DECIDE AT LATER DATE CLOSER TO CONFERENCE, THAT COMMITMENT SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN.

3. FOR ABOVE REASONS, RECOMMEND AMBASSADOR SNEIDER ACCEPT INVITATION APPEAR AT OPENING SESSION AND ACCEPT INVITATION TO OCTOBER 14 DINNER (WHICH IS ANNIVERSARY PRESIDENT EISENHOWER'S BIRTH) BUT DECLINE INVITATION TO SPEAK.
ERICSON

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